

## Message Text

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:ARDAY:EI

APPROVED BY NEA:ALATHERTON

S/S-O: L.MATTESON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN NIACT IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, JO, US

SUBJECT: HUGHES AIR DEFENSE SEMINAR

REF: AMMAN 5394

FOR AMBASSADOR PICKERING

1. FOR YOUR INFORMATION, HUGHES GAVE US FOLLOWING REASON FOR UNWILLINGNESS TO CONDUCT SEMINAR: THEY HAVE INSTALLED IN ISRAEL COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM SIMILAR TO ONE THEY WOULD BE DISCUSSING IN SEMINAR. INSTALLATION OF SUCH A SYSTEM GOES WELL BEYOND SIMPLY PROVIDING EQUIPMENT AND THEY HAVE AS RESULT CONSIDERABLE FAMILIARITY WITH WHOLE ISRAELI SET-UP. IN CIRCUMSTANCES, THEY DO NOT BELIEVE THEY CAN TAKE ON PROVIDING SAME KIND OF SYSTEM FOR JORDAN. SINCE SEMINAR IS DESIGNED TO LEAD TO COMMERCIAL SALES, HUGHES UNWILLING TO INCUR COST OF IT WHEN NO POSSIBILITY OF SALES EXISTED. HUGHES PEOPLE (MURRAY) DENIED TO US ANY ISRAELI ROLE IN THIS DECISION, BUT THERE IS OF COURSE NO WAY WE CAN BE SURE THIS IS TRUE.

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2. HUGHES SAID ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH ISRAELIS IN THIS RESPECT, THOUGH RUMORED IN THE TRADE, HAD NEVER BEEN OFFICIALLY ACKNOWLEDGED ON EITHER SIDE, AND THEY ASKED US

TO HOLD IT CLOSELY (THEY ALSO ASSURED US, HOWEVER, THAT DOSCH KNEW OF IT AND WOULD BE INSTRUCTED TO TELL YOU). WE CANNOT PASS THIS ON TO JORDANIANS, BUT WOULD NOT WANT TO IN ANY CASE SINCE IT WOULD DOUBTLESS CONFIRM THEM IN THEIR SUSPICION THAT ISRAELIS WERE BEHIND CANCELLATION.

3. RE DOD COMMAND AND CONTROL TEAM, IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THIS EXERCISE IS RELATED HUNDRED PERCENT TO HAWK MISSILES. WE DO NOT SEE HOW WE CAN GO AHEAD WITH THIS NOW, GIVEN SITUATION WE ARE IN WITH CONGRESS ON HAWK ISSUE, WITHOUT EXPOSING OURSELVES TO CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC CHARGES OF BAD FAITH THAT WOULD BE FAR FROM HELPFUL WHEN HAWK SALE CONSULTATION RESUMES WITH CONGRESS. JORDANIANS KNOW HAWK SALE IS UP IN THE AIR FOR THE MOMENT AND WE WOULD THINK THEY WOULD SEE IT AS LOGICAL, OR AT LEAST UNDERSTANDABLE, THAT TEAM'S VISIT SHOULD BE HELD UP PENDING RESOLUTION, PARTICULARLY SINCE THEY ARE FOOTING BILL FOR IT. (CABLE IS IN MILL HERE, IN REPLY TO DATT MESSAGE ON THIS AND OTHER PENDING ITEMS, INFORMING YOU OF DELAY IN TEAM'S VISIT.)

4. IF EMBASSY CAN COME UP WITH IDEA FOR A SEMINAR, BRIEFING OR OTHER SIMILAR EXERCISE THAT U.S. COULD REASONABLY PROVIDE--ONE RELATED, FOR EXAMPLE, TO USE OF VULCAN AND REDEYE--DEPT. WOULD UNDERTAKE TO SUPPORT IT HERE. WE WILL EXPLORE WITH DOD WHETHER THEY CAN FIELD A TEAM THAT COULD COVER COMMAND AND CONTROL AREA HUGHES WOULD HAVE DEALT WITH. KISSINGER

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